



SAT® School Day



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IDAHO SAT® SCHOOL DAY REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Register and prepare for free April 17 college entrance exam

February 19, 2013 — Boise, Idaho — Registration is open for Idaho's SAT® School Day, a free, in-school college entrance exam scheduled for Wednesday, April 17. Funded by the state of Idaho, SAT School Day is an example of how states can utilize the nation's oldest and most thoroughly researched college entrance exam to help promote a culture that encourages more students to pursue education after high school. Last year, more than 16,000 juniors across the state participated in Idaho SAT School Day. More Idahoans than ever before entered their senior year of high school with a key college admission credential.

"Idaho SAT School Day is a great opportunity for Idaho's high school juniors to take one step closer to going on to postsecondary education," Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna said. "I encourage all students to take advantage of this testing day in their school as well as the tools and resources the state offers, such as the free, online preparation course. I am pleased we can provide such unique advantages to our students to ensure more of them graduate from high school prepared to go on to postsecondary education and not need remediation once they get there."

Ken Edmunds, president of the Idaho State Board of Education, said, "Preparing students for success beyond high school is essential to Idaho's economic growth and prosperity. The statewide SAT day provides students with the opportunity to identify areas of strength and weakness so they can better prepare for postsecondary education."

In 2007, the Idaho Legislature approved a new high school graduation requirement for all high school juniors to take a college entrance exam. High school juniors can register for Idaho SAT School Day online at www.sat.org/idaho or through their school's guidance counselor's office. Registration ends Wednesday, April 3. All Idaho public schools with 11th-graders have been sent Idaho SAT School Day vouchers with printed numbers to give to the students to register.

Registering is easy. Students only need four things: an email account, a free College Board online account, their EDUID (State ID) number, and their Idaho SAT student voucher, available from their school counselor. Every SAT registration includes up to four free score reports that can be sent to colleges and scholarship services. Registering for the SAT also enables students to participate in the College Board's Student Search Service®, through which students can let colleges, universities and scholarship programs know they are interested in hearing from them. Students participating in the Student Search Service also have the opportunity to receive educational and financial aid information from colleges, universities and scholarship programs.

Research has shown that taking a rigorous curriculum in high school is the best way to prepare for college, and for the SAT. To help Idaho students familiarize themselves with the SAT and prepare for Idaho SAT School Day, the Idaho State Department of Education and the College Board are providing all public school juniors with free access to [The Official SAT Online Course™](http://sat.collegeboard.org), available through their school. Additional free and low-cost SAT practice tools and resources, including a free, full-length practice test and The Official SAT Question of the Day™ are available at <http://sat.collegeboard.org>.

Students can use their SAT scores to research colleges and universities on the College Board's free comprehensive college planning website, bigfuture.org. The BigFuture™ site was created with the Education Conservancy and in consultation with students and educators to help make the college planning process simpler and more accessible. bigfuture.org walks students through each step of the college planning process, from finding colleges that fit, to writing a college essay, to applying for financial aid. At the site, students can watch videos from real students giving tips on college planning, such as what to do on a campus visit, and students can explore college options with advice from the schools themselves. Students also have access to [Skills Insight™](http://SkillsInsight.com), which is a general guide to help students determine their current skill level in reading, writing and math — the areas tested on the SAT.

Created by educators and aligned to Common Core State Standards, the SAT tests the reading, mathematics and writing skills and the knowledge students acquire during high school. The SAT provides a fair, national benchmark for assessing a student's college and career readiness. Scores for each section of the SAT are reported on a 200- to 800-point scale, with additional subscores reported for the essay (ranging from 2 to 12) and for multiple-choice writing questions (on a 20- to 80-point scale). The SAT provides valuable feedback to students and families, including a detailed breakdown of a student's score in each section, with insight into academic strengths and areas for improvement.

“Ensuring that as many high school students as possible have the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in college is more important now than at any point in our nation's history, so we are pleased to see states and districts guiding students to a key college credential by hosting SAT School Day,” said College Board Vice President James Montoya, a former dean of admission. “College is a major family financial investment, and the SAT helps students identify the colleges and universities where they have the highest likelihood of academic success. When used in combination with high school grades, the SAT is the most valid predictor of first-year college performance.”

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About Idaho SAT School Day

Idaho SAT School Day was created as the result of a 2007 Idaho state law instituting new graduation requirements to ensure more students graduated from high school prepared to go on to postsecondary education or the workforce. Among the law's requirements was that all Idaho students, beginning with the high school class of 2013, complete a college entrance exam before the end of their junior year. In 2011, the Idaho Legislature appropriated \$963,500 for schools to offer the SAT during regular school hours to the class of 2013 at no cost to the students or their families. This initiative provides the opportunity for Idaho students to take the SAT during the school day, which ensures that promising students who might otherwise face barriers to standard Saturday testing — such as distance, part-time jobs, or other family responsibilities — did not miss out on a chance to prepare for the future. This year (2012-13) SAT School Day will be administered to all public school students in the states of Delaware and Idaho, as well as in school districts across ten states (Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Texas, Washington, Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, New York and Oregon) and Washington, D.C.

About the College Board

The College Board is a mission-driven not-for-profit organization that connects students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the College Board was created to expand access to higher education. Today, the membership association is made up of over 6,000 of the world's leading educational institutions and is dedicated to promoting excellence and equity in education. Each year, the College Board helps more than seven million students prepare for a successful transition to college through programs and services in college readiness and college success — including the SAT® and the Advanced Placement Program®. The organization also serves the education community through research and advocacy on behalf of students, educators and schools. For further information, visit www.collegeboard.org.

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